

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2175 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Motor Vehicles to establish a Teenage Drivers Education and Training Advisory Committee and to enter into contracts for the design and evaluation of a model driver education and training program.

Though I support the intent of this bill, it is unnecessary. DMV is already working with Caltrans in the development of a Strategic Highway Safety Plan pursuant to recent federal law. These changes establish a new program structured and funded to make significant progress in reducing highway fatalities. States must have their plan in place by October of next year in order to receive their full share of federal transportation funds. A key component of the plan will be strategies for reducing accidents, injuries and fatalities, including those involving young drivers.

Given the efforts in conjunction with federal law, it is unnecessary to expend additional dollars on a separate study of the same issue.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger